2/24/97

Dear Earl,

If my terrible typing is worse, that may be because I'm supposed to be flat on my back with my legs elevated. The more damaged leg is sowllen and inflamed. But this I had to get con pager.

If I could get it retyped, as I at this moment cannot, I might send Hirsh a copy to give him a better idea of what he faces in trying to be a good American.

Gil and I have our own notice that spring is close. It is the return of the mallards who breed here, using the pond and the pool.

Within a day or two, it will also be a pair of honkers.

We have 16 wild turkeys nesting in a tree behind the house, near the little spring brnnch there.

The deer have staked out two special resting places both close to the house and both visible from it.

And we love it!

Perhaps more so because it is so unlike the work!

Best

Fred

Mac Clay

Merit